(c) what steps Government propose to take to meet this challenge of sanitary and phyto-sanitary related challenges in the WTO and otherwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) According to the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), there are sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) related market access obstacles only in Saudi Arabia.

(b) Despite this instance of sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures related market access obstacles, our export of marine products have registered a positive growth rate of 4.2%, in dollar terms, during 2005-06 as compared to the previous year.

(c) Government has already taken up the matter with the Saudi Arabia and they have agreed to lift the ban on import of Indian marine products into Saudi Arabia, subject to signing the agreement with the Indian side to ensure compliance with the rules, regulations and to maintain the sanitary requirements etc., in respect of marine products before these are exported to Saudi Arabia.

As per the WTO-SPS Agreement, Member's SPS related measures shall be backed by the evidence of science and the same would also need to be based on appropriate risk analysis. If the proposed rules, regulations and related sanitary requirements of Saudi Arabia in respect of marine products, are at variance with these basic principles, India can adopt and initiate appropriate proceedings as per the WTO-SPS Agreement.

Cases of pending dues of missing and deceased soldiers

†3374. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of payment of dues of the missing and deceased soldiers pending with army as on the 31st January, 2006, wing-wise;

(b) since when these are pending;

(c) the reasons for pendency in each case; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the details of the action being taken for their speedy disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Aerospace Command

3375. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Air Force has plans to set up an aerospace command of its own;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been frequent cost and time overruns in the Indian Aerospace industry; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to overcome such overruns in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) There is no decision of the Government to set up Aerospace Command.

Anti-Terrorism Schools in Jharkhand

†3376. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open anti-terrorism schools in Jharkhand and other naxal affected States with the help of army;

(b) whether any such school has been opened in any State; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Army has provided training to Jharkhand State Police at Ranchi. In Chhattisgarh, they have provided training and assisted in the establishment of the State Counter-Terrorism and Jungle Warfare College in Kanker.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.